Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A method of, via a graphical user interface (GUI), annotating picture information for pictures in a picture database, said method comprising the steps of:

generating a user-friendly display with picture indicia;

in response to on-screen user ~~input, identifying~~ input that identifies a plurality of pictures as belonging to a group;

providing a single information entry area for receiving information about the group of pictures;

accepting metadata input on-screen by said user to the information entry area, said metadata characterizing said group of pictures; and

automatically associating the accepted metadata with the pictures of the group.

2. (Original) The method in Claim 1, wherein said metadata comprises social information.

3. (Original) The method in Claim 2, wherein said social information comprises at least one event that said group of pictures records.

4. (Original) The method in Claim 2, wherein said social information comprises temporal aspects of said group of pictures with respect to capture.

5. (Original) The method in Claim 2, wherein said social information comprises capture location aspects of said group of pictures.

6. (Original) The method in Claim 2, wherein said social information comprises people who are recorded in said group of pictures.

7. (Original) The method in Claim 2, wherein said social information comprises objects that are recorded in said group of pictures.

-2-

8. (Original) The method in Claim 2, wherein said social information comprises user-provided comments.

9. (Currently amended) A graphical user interface (GUI) adapted to annotate picture information for pictures in a picture database, said GUI comprising:

a display generator adapted to generate a user-friendly display with picture indicia;

a picture grouper adapted to, to define a group of pictures in response to on-screen user input, identify input identifying a plurality of pictures as belonging to a group the group;

a single information entry area for receiving information about the group of pictures;

a metadata receiver adapted to accept metadata input on-screen by said user to the information entry area, said metadata characterizing said group of pictures, and

a metadata association system adapted to automatically associate the accepted metadata with the pictures of the group.

10. (Original) The GUI in Claim 1, wherein said metadata comprises social information.

11. (Original) The GUI in Claim 2, wherein said social information comprises at least one event that said group of pictures records.

12. (Original) The GUI in Claim 2, wherein said social information comprises temporal aspects of said group of pictures with respect to capture.

13. (Original) The GUI in Claim 2, wherein said social information comprises capture location aspects of said group of pictures.

-3-

14. (Original) The GUI in Claim 2, wherein said social information comprises people who are recorded in said group of pictures.

15. (Original) The GUI in Claim 2, wherein said social information comprises objects that are recorded in said group of pictures.

16. (Original) The GUI in Claim 2, wherein said social information comprises user-provided comments.

-4-